

Next Steps:

Palm Sunday recognizes the anticipation of the Israelites as they celebrated the arrival of Jesus into Jerusalem. Take some time this week to read this account of this special day in Matthew 21:1-11.

Read Zechariah 9:9. Why were so many people so excited about Jesus coming into Jerusalem during the celebration of the Passover?

All along the way God was giving the Israelites the “puzzle pieces” so they could get an accurate picture of the promised Messiah... but most people were looking at the wrong picture so they had a difficult time connecting the pieces together. As a result, a few days after they celebrated the arrival of Jesus into Jerusalem, they were celebrating His crucifixion on Golgotha.

Read Luke 23:44-56. Luke records the last words of Jesus before He died. Jesus is actually quoting one verse from David’s prayer recorded in Psalm 31. Even though Jesus only said one verse, He had the whole prayer in mind. What does David’s prayer tell you about Jesus in these final moments on the cross?

What difficult thing are you experiencing right now? Spend some time reflecting on Psalm 31. Rewrite this Psalm in your own words, using your particular experience to personalize your trust and commitment.

Next Week: This week is commonly referred to as “Holy Week” or “Passion Week.” It begins on Palm Sunday with the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem; moves forward to Maundy Thursday as Jesus shared the “Last Supper” with his disciples and spent time praying in the Garden of Gethsemane; takes a morbid turn with the crucifixion of Jesus on Friday; culminating in the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday. The common thread through this week is Jesus. May we spend more time reflecting on His life & His Passion, so we are more fully prepared to celebrate the glory of His resurrection next Sunday.